Volume 11, Edition 5 May 2007

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

GUESS WHO DOESN'T LOOK AS RELAXED AS HIS PICTURE ON LAST MONTH'S ISSUE? THANKS, ED!

FROM THE TOP: Field Day is just around the corner.

The May 16 meeting will be in McDougal Hall at SDC. This month we will be going over hamfest results and discussing details for Field Day, June 23-24. If you want to work HF, Field Day is a great event to get hands on experience.

I hope everyone had a good time at the Hamfest, I certainly did. I would like to thank everyone for all the work they did. A lot of people stopped by the club stations to see K6UUW's great set up. If you missed it, Jim had two stations set up. An APRS station on 2 meters and PSK/RTTY on HF. Ed had the breakfast crew doing a great job. There were deals to be had at the swap meet, with Bob, KE6LNI, stopping by to point out that I missed some great buys. ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director, Andy Oppel, N6AJO, came to the hamfest and had ARRL information available and gave a presentation on Emergency Communications. Emergency Communication Vans from Solano, San Ramon and Sonoma County were very impressive looking in front of the Vets Building.

The DX Convention was held the same weekend as Hamfest this year and the club is looking at alternate dates for next year. The DX Convention will be the last weekend in April next year (AGAIN!!!!!).

The July meeting will be a BBQ. If anyone has suggestions on where we should have the BBQ let me know.

We still need net control stations for the VOMARC Wednesday night net for Jul, Aug, Sept and Dec. Let me know if you are interested.

Hope to hear you on the air and see you at the meeting.

Dave, KD6FIL

VOMARC MINUTES April 18, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM. There were 17 in attendance.

Introductions were made.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's report: The quarterly report shows $230.89 more in the bank than this time last year. There is a total of $1874.72 in the bank. If there are any outstanding bills, please see Ken, N6KM, for reimbursement soon as he will be gone until May 5, 2007. A question was raised about the club insurance. It is not due until mid year. All other bills are paid at the moment, including the county fees for the Ham Fest and Field Day. The club assets include all equipment and supplies as well as cash in the bank. Ken is still trying to compile a list of club assets. If you have any club equipment, please let Ken know so he can add it and the location to the list of assets.

ACS Report: Our club was invited to participate in the Petaluma Butter and Egg Day Parade as part of the ACS and emergency communication contingent that will be in the

parade. Unfortunately, it is on the same day as the Ham Fest. Sunday, June 3, 2007, is the Hit the Road Jack Run. Volunteers are needed for the communications for the race. Ken, N6KM, will be the coordinator. Details of the race will be discussed at the May club meeting. Coordinator for the Fourth of July parade communications will be Tom Benton, Kg6QJQ and for the Vintage festival parade, the coordinator will be Eileen Adams, Kg6QNT. The recent GPS exercise held for the south county was fun. We will have one here in the fall. It will involve communication and finding coordinates, plus GPS, mobile and message handling procedures. One hint. Be sure you know how to program your radio.

Eagle Team Report: Things are plugging along.

VE Report: There will be a VE session at the Ham Fest on April 28th. There is a full staff of VE's for this session.

Shortly 1055 440 repeaters will be asked to shut down or lower power to below 50 W ERP. This is due to the regulation that any repeater within 150 miles of a military base takes second place to the military. There is information about this on the ARRL web site.

The tracker boxes were discussed. Dave, KD6FIL, has two of the clubs boxes. He has one old one that needs a chip to upgrade it. Bionics has not yet responded to his request for replacement of the ones that don't work.

Old Business: Field Day is paid for and on track. There is discussion about updating the trailers and possibly raising the height of the tower.

There are still volunteers needed for both the VOMARC and the ACS nets.

It was a moved, seconded and passed that the club add Sam Peterson to the mailing list as a thank you for his donation of the Yaesu FT 757GX that he made last month. The club will keep and use the rig for this year and discuss future use later.

Ken, N6Km, donated a volt meter and QRP kit to the club with the thought that it could be some equipment for a new or upcoming ham. There is a young man in the Young Eagles group at the Sonoma Skypark Airport who has expressed interest in becoming a ham. Darrel, WD6BOR, will see if he is interested in the equipment.

Planning for the Ham Fest was next on the agenda. Darrel has the sign up sheet for the various positions that need filled to staff the event. There will be an antenna party as usual on Friday, April 27th, about 4 - 4:30PM. Then there are volunteers needed for the kitchen/cooking crew from 7:00AM to 9:30AM and from 9:30AM - 12PM or whenever

clean up ends. Joan, W6WXU, will handle the swap table and vendor registration. There are people needed to man the club swap table. Jim, K6UUW, will coordinate the demonstrations. Mike, WB6TMH, will coordinate the fox hunt, although, he needs some help with it this year. Ed, KA6OFR, will do talk in. Eileen, KG6QNT, will coordinate the registration table and breakfast ticket sales. Breakfast will be from 8AM - 10AM. There will be invitations for a free breakfast to the local police and fire departments.

It has come to the attention of the club that Hanna Center has ham equipment. Ken, N6KM, will contact the personnel there to see what is there and to invite the boys to attend the Ham Fest. We will see if, in the future, we can establish a mentor program with some of the boys.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM. All who desired stayed to help fold, seal, and label mailers for the Ham Fest. Eileen, KG6QNT, is going to be sure they get stamped and mailed. Thank you Eileen.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Brady, W6WXU,
Secretary

FOR SALE:
HF equipment:
All items believed to be in good working condition.
Kenwood TS 140S HF transceiver-$350
MFJ 962C Versa Tuner III. 1.5 kW antenna tuner
Heathkit SB200 linear amplifier - $200
Johnson Viking kW Match Box - $200
Kenwood PS 430 power supply
MFJ 422-B electronic keyer paddle
Ham Keyer HK5A keyer

VHF/UHF equipment, near new condition
Both items barely used.
Astron RS 20A power supply.
Kenwood TM 742A tribander 2M/440/1.2 with tower antenna and mag-mount.
Eran, KD6KVO, 996-8933, glago@comcast.net

Kantronics All Mode Communicator, a TNC that will do Morse (CW), RTTY, ASCII, AMTOR and Packet on HF and Packet on VHF/UHF. With manual and in good working order. $50.00
32 foot crank-up mast and base by Triasto. WIll support tri-band antenna easily. $100.00. Base needs some repair.
VOMARC c/o Ken McTaggart N6KM 938-2626, kmct@vom.com.

Ed wasn't the only one slingin' hash at the Hamfest! Tom, KG6QJQ, arms a blur...

CHECK OUT THIS WEBSITE:

This website has a video showing medieval tech support. Things haven't changed much in the last thousand years.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRBIVRwvUeE

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 11 EDITION 5

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF
Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL– President
Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Vice-President/Membership Chair
Joan Brady, W6WXU – Secretary
Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Treasurer
Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer
Ken McTaggert, N6KM – ACS
Jan Bush, AE6FQ – Webmeister
Joel Nadler, NN6J – VE Liaison
Jim Hill, K6UUW, Elmer Coordinator
Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: http://www.vomarc.org/

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until the Sonoma Police station renovation is completed.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

wd6bor@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
32 Patten Street
Sonoma, CA 95476

Valley of the Moon ARC
175 First Street West

NOTICE!!! THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, AT 7:30 P.M. AT MCDOUGAL HALL AT SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
CU THERE!

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2007 Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.
QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

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VOMARC: $_____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, 402 Fourth Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**